

REMARKS

The above-referenced patent application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action referenced above. Claims 1-3 and 6-10 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102 over U.S. Patent No. 6,115,149 (hereinafter Lai). Claims 4 and 5 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103 over Lai in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,914,745 (hereinafter Eguchi). Claims 1-24 are currently pending. Claims 1-10 are currently amended. However, these amendments were not made in response to any rejection or objection by the Examiner. These claims have been amended to clarify Assignee's claimed subject matter. In addition, the amendments to claims 1-10 do not narrow their scope, and in some instances broaden their scope and as such should not result in prosecution history estoppel. New claims 11-24 have been added. Support for new claims 11-24 is found throughout the application, such as Fig. 3, and paragraphs 18-23. No new matter has been presented. Reconsideration of the above-referenced patent application in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

To establish a *prima facie* case of unpatentability under 35 U.S.C. § 102, the examiner must establish that each and every aspect of the rejected claim is taught by the cited document. With respect to the merits of the specific claim rejections, we begin by discussing claim 1, as amended. Regarding this claim, Lai does not teach each and every element of claim 1, as amended. Therefore, it is respectfully asserted that the Examiner has failed to make out a *prima facie* case of unpatentability. Specifically, Lai does not teach "moving a paper sheet a first distance towards a scanning window; scanning a portion of said paper sheet with a scanning head;" and "moving said scanning head a second distance in a first direction, wherein said second distance is smaller than said first distance," as recited in Assignee's amended claim 1. In light of this, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claim 1 on this basis be withdrawn.

Claims 2-10 distinguish from the cited documents on at least the same and/or a similar basis. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 2-10 be withdrawn as well. In addition,

new claims 11-24 distinguish from the cited documents on at least the same and/or a similar basis as claim 1. It is therefore respectfully requested that new claims 11-24 be allowed to proceed to issuance.

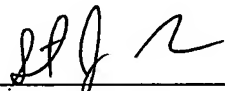
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims pending in this patent application are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at (503) 439-6500. Consideration of this patent application and early allowance of all the claims is respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges of any fees required for this submission to Deposit Account number 50-3703.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 11/5/06



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